

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 288525
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 H-02 SSM-05
PM-05 PA-02 PRS-01 /062 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:WBHARRIS:RGH

APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN

S/PRS - MR. CARTER (INFO)

H - MR. FLATEN (INFO)

SSM - MR. MC ANDREW

NEA - MR. NEUMANN

NEA/IAI - MR. SMITH

NEA/ARN - MR. DRAPER

NEA/ARP - MR. TWINAM

NEA/EGY - MR. NEWBERRY

-----039653 030104Z /63

O 022326Z DEC 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION SINAI

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 288525

AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USNATO

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY
DOD
JCS
CIA
USIA
NSC

UNCLAS STATE 288525

CINCEUR FOR POLAD, TEL AVIV FOR PAO, DELIVER BY 9 A.M.

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - DECEMBER 2

1. FOR YOUR GUIDANCE AND INFORMATION FOLLOWING ARE
EXCERPTS FROM DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING FOR DECEMBER 2,
1977. FYI ONLY SPOKESMAN TODAY WAS HODDING CARTER III.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 288525

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING ON AN AMERICAN WOMAN BEING
ARRESTED IN ISRAEL ON ESPIONAGE CHARGES?

A. YES, THE TERRY FLEENER CASE, THE AMERICAN WHO IS BE-
ING HELD IN ISRAEL. SHE WAS ARRESTED AT LOD AIRPORT ON
OCTOBER 25TH AND SHE IS CURRENTLY BEING DETAINED ON SUS-
PICION OF ANTI-ISRAELI ACTIVITIES. ACCORDING TO ISRAELI
AUTHORITIES, MS. FLEENER IS SUSPECTED OF INTENDING TO
PHOTOGRAPH MILITARY INSTALLATIONS IN ISRAEL.

THE EMBASSY WAS NOTIFIED OF MS. FLEENER'S ARREST ON
OCTOBER 27TH, AND A CONSULAR OFFICER FROM OUR EMBASSY AT
TEL AVIV VISITED HER ON OCTOBER 28TH. SHE HAS NOT BEEN
FORMALLY CHARGED. THERE HAVE BEEN THREE HEARINGS ON HER
CASE SO FAR: THE FIRST WAS HELD ON NOVEMBER 4, AT
WHICH TIME THE COURT ORDERED INVESTIGATIVE DETENTION FOR
AN ADDITIONAL 15 DAYS; THE SECOND HEARING WAS HELD ON

NOVEMBER 17, AND A THIRD HEARING WAS HELD NOVEMBER 23,
AT WHICH TIME MS. FLEENER'S DETENTION WAS EXTENDED
UNTIL DECEMBER 4. THESE HEARINGS WERE NOT OPEN TO THE
PUBLIC, AND THEREFORE, THE CONSULAR OFFICER WAS NOT
PERMITTED TO ATTEND. THE NEXT HEARING IS SCHEDULED FOR
DECEMBER 4.

Q. DOES SHE HAVE THE RIGHT TO HAVE COUNSEL?

A. SHE HAS HAD AN ATTORNEY, BUT I WILL COME TO THAT IN JUST ONE SECOND. IF THE HEARING IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, A CONSULAR OFFICER WILL ATTEND THE HEARING, ACCORDING TO MS. FLEENER'S ATTORNEY. A TRIAL DATE WILL PROBABLY BE SET AT THE DECEMBER 4 HEARING. ACCORDING TO OUR INFORMATION, MS. FLEENER'S CONTINUED DETENTION IS IN FULL ACCORDANCE WITH ISRAELI LAW AND NEITHER SHE NOR HER ATTORNEY HAVE COMPLAINED OF ANY IRREGULARITIES. I DO NOT HAVE A REPORT ON OUR CONSULAR OFFICER'S LAST VISIT

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 288525

TO HER, WHICH OCCURRED AT THE END OF LAST MONTH. BUT, AS I REPEAT, THERE HAVE NOT BEEN COMPLAINTS FROM HER ATTORNEY OR HER ABOUT IRREGULARITIES.

WE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH HER GRANDMOTHER, WHO LIVES IN TEXAS, AND ALSO WITH HER MOTHER, WHO LIVES IN OHIO. I DO NOT HAVE A HOME ADDRESS FOR MS. FLEENER.

I DON'T KNOW THE ANSWER TO THE QUESTION ABOUT WHETHER OR NOT A LAWYER WAS WITH HER DURING EACH OF THESE HEARINGS; I'LL FIND OUT AND TAKE IT.

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY MORE BIOGRAPHICAL DATA ON HER?

A. NO, I DON'T. I'LL SEE IF WE CAN GET ANY MORE.

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING ON WHETHER OR NOT SHE TOLD THE CONSULAR OFFICER AT ANY OF THEIR MEETINGS WHETHER SHE FEELS SHE IS INNOCENT OR WHETHER SHE ACCEPTS RESPONSIBILITY?

A. I DON'T HAVE ONE ON THAT AND I DON'T THINK I WOULD WANT TO ENTER IN AS A PARTY AT THIS POINT OF THE DELIBERATIONS.

Q. WHAT IS THE AMERICAN POSITION ON THE POSSIBLE EXTRADITION?

A. I THINK THAT WE DON'T HAVE A POSITION PENDING A DISPOSITION BEYOND THESE PRELIMINARY HEARINGS. WE DON'T HAVE ANY DISPOSITION OF THE CASE.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 288525

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING ON WHY SHE WAS IN ISRAEL, WHEN SHE GOT TO ISRAEL, WHAT HER PURPOSES WERE, WAS SHE A TOURIST?

A. SHE WAS ARRESTED AT THE AIRPORT COMING IN.
I GUESS YOUR QUESTIONS THAT YOU WANT ANSWERS TO ARE UNDER
WHAT AUSPICES OR FOR WHAT REASON WAS SHE COMING THERE
AND WHERE WAS SHE COMING FROM.

Q. YES.

Q. HAS THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAD ANY INFORMATION
OR HAVE THE ISRAELIS MADE ANY ALLEGATIONS THAT SHE WAS
WORKING WITH OR FOR THE PALESTINIANS OR THE PLO?

A. I DO NOT HAVE THAT HERE. I UNDERSTAND THAT
SUCH ALLEGATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE, BUT THAT IS INDIRECT
INFORMATION THAT I HAVE, WHICH IS THE SAME AVAILABLE, I
THIN, TO YOU ALL. I'VE SEEN THAT EITHER ON A FBIS OR
IN A WIRE REPORT, BUT I DO NOT HAVE ANYTHING BEYOND THAT.

Q. IS THE SECRETARY PLANNING TO ACCOMPANY THE PRESIDENT
ON HIS TRIP?

A. YES.

Q. ARE SAYING NOW THAT YOU'RE LEAVING OPEN THE POSSIBI-
LITY THAT HE MIGHT DO SOMETHING BESIDES JUST ATTEND THE
NATO MEETING?

A. WHAT I'M LEAVING OPEN IS THIS, THAT WE ARE AT THIS
POINT IN THE POSTURE OF HAVING A TRIP WHICH BEGINS ON
THE 7TH AND ENDS ON THE 9TH. I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING BEYOND
THAT.

Q. DO YOU EXPECT TO HAVE ANYTHING BEYOND THAT BEFORE HE
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 288525

LEAVES?

A. THE WAY THINGS HAVE BEEN GOING IN THIS WORLD THE
LAST TWO WEEKS, I HESITATE TO DO ANYTHING EXCEPT TO
SAY WHAT I KNOW TO BE A FACT, AND THAT IS THAT WE DO NOT
HAVE ANYTHING MORE TO OFFER ON HIS TRAVEL PLANS RIGHT NOW.

Q. YOU TALKED ABOUT THE LAST TWO WEEKS YOU HAVE THE
MIDDLE EAST IN MIND. IS THERE CONSIDERATION BEING
GIVEN TO THE SECRETARY'S --

A. I THINK ANY NUMBER OF CONSIDERATIONS ARE BEING
GIVEN TO VARIOUS POSSIBILITIES. WE ARE CLEARLY
INTERESTED IN THIS PROCESS, BUT BEYOND THAT, I LITERALLY
DON'T HAVE ANYTHING I CAN OFFER YOU.

Q. YESTERDAY, A U.S. OFFICIAL SAID THAT THE SYRIANS ARE
INTERESTED IN GENEVA, AND IT KIND OF WAS DROPPED AT THAT.

I WASN'T AT THE BRIEFING AND I DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE TO FOLLOW UP. HAVE YOU HEARD FROM THE SYRIANS IN ANY POSITIVE WAY REGARDING A GENEVA CONFERENCE? THE LAST WE LEFT IT, THEY HADN'T ADOPTED THE WORKING PAPER AND THEIR INITIAL REACTION WAS NEGATIVE.

A. I THINK THAT IT IS OUR IMPRESSION FROM CONVERSATIONS WITH THEM THAT THEY CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT A GENEVA CONFERENCE COULD BE USEFUL. THEY ALSO HAVE STATED PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY THAT THEY THINK THAT THERE ARE OBVIOUS MATTERS WHICH NEED TO BE CLEARED UP, WHICH I THINK WE HAVE GONE OVER BEFORE, BEFORE THAT MEETING WOULD TAKE PLACE. I DON'T THINK THERE IS A MAJOR SHIFT IN THEIR POLICY ON GENEVA. THEY HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE EFFECT OF THE CAIRO TRIP ON A POSSIBLE GENEVA
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 07 STATE 288525

CONFERENCE, BUT I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THEY HAVE PULLED AWAY FROM THAT BEING A POSSIBILITY, AND ONE WHICH IF ADEQUATELY PREPARED WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA.

Q. I THINK THE EMPHASIS THEN IS NO MAJOR SHIFT.

A. YES.

Q. THEY NEVER WERE LINED UP FOR GENEVA.

A. SURE THEY WERE.

Q. NO, NO. ON YOUR WORKING PAPER.

A. ON OUR WORKING PAPER WHICH THE ISRAELIS ACCEPTED. THEY HAVE NOT ACCEPTED THAT. THAT IS CORRECT.

Q. AND THEY HAVE NOT COME ANY CLOSER TO ACCEPTING IT?

A. I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT OUR RECENT TALKS HAVE FOCUSED ON THAT ISSUE SO MUCH AS IT IS ON THE GENERAL QUESTION OF WHETHER OR NOT THEY ARE STILL DISPOSED TO LOOK AT THAT AS A POSSIBILITY AND SOMETHING WE COULD WORK TOWARD.

Q. I JUST WANTED TO ASK YOU IF THE SECRETARY SHARES THE

APPRAISAL OF THIS OFFICIAL THAT THE ATTITUDE OF THE SYRIANS HAS BEEN RESTRAINED AND RESERVED?

A. I THINK THE SECRETARY BELIEVES THAT THEY HAVE BEEN CAREFUL IN THEIR OFFICIAL POSTURE ON THIS QUESTION.

Q. IF WE ARE IN FACT DEDICATED TO ACHIEVING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AND IF ISRAEL AND EGYPT CONCLUDE A SEPARATE PEACE TREATY IN THE ABSENCE OF BEING ABLE TO GET ADDI-

TIONAL COUNTRIES AT THIS TIME OR IN THE NEAR FUTURE, WHY
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 08 STATE 288525

WOULD WE BE OPPOSED TO A SEPARATE PEACE TREATY BETWEEN
THESE TWO LEADING NATIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST?

A. I THINK THAT IT HAS TO BE PUT IN A DIFFERENT CONTEXT,
AND I DON'T KNOW THAT I CAN IMPROVE ON WHAT THE PRESIDENT
SAID ON THIS ONE, WHICH IS BASICALLY THAT WE CONTINUE TO
HOPE AND BELIEVE THAT THE PROCESS WHICH INVOLVES CAIRO IS
PART OF A LARGER CONTINUUM WHICH LEADS TO A MORE COMPRE-
HENSIVE SETTLEMENT; THAT IF AFTER GOOD FAITH NEGOTIATIONS
AND AN ATTEMPT IS MADE BY ALL THE PARTIES TO GET TOGETHER,
THAT THEN YOU HAVE TO EXAMINE THE QUESTION OF A SEPARATE
PEACE. BUT THAT IS WAY DOWN THE ROAD. WE ARE SIMPLY IN
THE POSTURE NOW OF STILL HOPING AND BELIEVING ON THE
BASIS OF WHAT WE ARE TOLD.

Q. WELL, WE DON'T OPPOSE A SEPARATE PEACE, IS THAT
RIGHT?

A. I THINK THAT WHAT I AM IN THE POSTURE OF HAVING
TO DO IS SIMPLY TO SAY THAT WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO
SPECULATE ON THAT, BECAUSE WHAT IS THE INTENT SO FAR,
AS WE HAVE HEARD IT EXPRESSED, IS TO GO IN A DIFFERENT
DIRECTION. AND THAT THE IF'S THAT GO BEYOND THAT ARE
SOMETHING THAT I REALLY DON'T THINK IT WOULD BE
HELPFUL FOR ME TO GO INTO.

Q. THE FBIS SAYS THAT INDIA HAS ANNOUNCED THAT
PRESIDENT CARTER WILL VISIT THERE IN EARLY JANUARY. DO
YOU HAVE ANYTHING ON THAT?

A. I THINK THERE PROBABLY WAS AN OUTLINE OF THAT
YESTERDAY.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 09 STATE 288525

Q. IT WAS ANNOUNCED?

A. YES, AT SOME LENGTH. AS I RECALL, HE GOES FROM
TEHERAN ON THE FIRST TO INDIA AND WILL BE THERE ANOTHER
DAY.

DAY.

Q. CAN YOU CONFIRM WHITE HOUSE COMMENTS THAT THE U.S.
IS CONTINUING ACTIVE EFFORTS TO BROADEN THE PARTICIPATION
IN CAIRO IN VIEW OF SOME OF YOUR OWN COMMENTS EARLIER
IN THE WEEK?

A. I WOULD CONTINUE TO SAY THAT CLEARLY WE WOULD BE DELIGHTED IF OTHERS WERE TO PARTICIPATE, AND THAT TO THAT END, HOWEVER, WE HAVE TO NOTE THE OFFICIAL STATEMENT OF A NUMBER OF THE PARTIES ON THEIR INTENTIONS, AND THAT WE ARE FOCUSING THE MAIN PART OF OUR EFFORTS NOW ON DOING WHAT WE CAN TO MAKE THE CAIRO MEETING A SUCCESS.

Q. DO YOU TAKE ISRAEL'S REFUSAL TO ATTEND THE WALDHEIM MEETING AS FINAL?

A. I HAVE NO REASON TO GO BEHIND THAT STATEMENT.

Q. AND HAVE YOU NOT REACHED A DECISION YOURSELF? I THINK THE SECRETARY SAID ON THE HILL TODAY THAT WE OUGHT TO CONCENTRATE ON CAIRO.

A. YES. I THINK THAT WE ARE STILL WHERE WE WERE ON THAT. THAT IS THAT WHEN WALDHEIM GETS HIS RESPONSES FROM ALL THE PARTIES, WE WOULD THEN DISCUSS IT. BUT I THINK THAT WHAT THE SECRETARY SAID IS THE APPROPRIATE FOCUS -- THAT WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR NOW IS THE SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF THE CAIRO MEETING.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 10 STATE 288525

Q. WHAT WOULD MAKE THE CAIRO MEETING A SUCCESS?

A. I DON'T THINK I WANT TO LAY OUT ALL THE POSSIBILITIES. CLEARLY, ANYTHING WHICH MOVES THE PARTIES GENERALLY FURTHER TOWARD AN AGREEMENT, CLEARLY SOMETHING WHICH IMPROVES THE ATMOSPHERE IN THE MIDDLE EAST FOR A PEACE AGREEMENT AMONG THE PARTIES, EITHER PROCEDURAL OR SUBSTANTIVE, AND WE ARE PREPARED TO DEAL WITH BOTH WHEN WE GO THERE, OR WILL BE. AND BEYOND THAT -- YOU KNOW, IT COULD GO ON FOR SOME LENGTH.

2. THE FOLLOWING WAS POSTED IN THE DEPARTMENT PRESS OFFICE IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION TAKEN AT THE BRIEFING OF DECEMBER 1.

Q. HOW IS THE PERSON WHO IS CLAIMING TO BE THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE POLISARIO TRAVELING IN THE U.S.?

A. HE IS ON AN ALGERIAN DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT.

Q. HOW IS HE ABLE TO CONDUCT A PRESS CONFERENCE SUCH AS THE ONE HE GAVE IN WASHINGTON, D.C. THIS MORNING?

A. THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS LOOKING INTO HIS STATUS AND ACTIVITIES.

Q. WHAT IS THE U.S. GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE
POLISARIO?

A. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT DOES NOT RECOGNIZE THE POLISARIO.
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS ARE PRECLUDED FROM MEETING WITH
ITS REPRESENTATIVES, OTHER THAN FOR THE PURPOSE OF
ISSUING VISAS.
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 11 STATE 288525

VANCE

UNCLASSIFIED

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 22-Sep-1999 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE288525
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NEA/P:WBHARRIS:RGH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D770448-0670
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197712111/baaaeunw.tel
Line Count: 394
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 81f35dfc-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 8
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 119060
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - DECEMBER 2
TAGS: PFOR, JO
To: AMMAN BEIRUT MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/81f35dfc-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009